



Front Country Trails
Multi-Jurisdictional Task Force

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Regular Meeting
Wednesday, June 4, 2008
5:30 p.m.
City Council Chambers
735 Anacapa Street, 2nd Floor, Santa Barbara

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER: Chair Forsell called the regular meeting of the Front Country Trails Multi-Jurisdictional Task Force to order at 5:30 p.m. at the City Council Chambers, 735 Anacapa Street, 2nd Floor.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
Chair Forsell

ROLL CALL: Task Force Members Present:

Steve Forsell	City Park & Recreation Commissioner
Suzanne Perkins	County Parks Commissioner 1st District
Beebe Longstreet	City Park & Recreation Commissioner
James Hickling	County Parks Commissioner 3rd District
Bruce Emmens	Public Use & Facilities Staff Officer Los Padres National Forest
Jeff Bensen	District Recreation Officer Los Padres National Forest

City of Santa Barbara Staff Present

Jill Zachary	Assistant Parks and Recreation Director
Kathy Frye	Associate Park/Natural Areas Planner
Karla Megill	Executive Assistant

County of Santa Barbara Staff Present

Erik Axelson	Deputy Parks Director
Claude A. Garciacelay	ASLA, Park Planner

Los Padres National Forest Staff Present

Kerry Kellogg	Recreation Specialist, Santa Barbara Ranger District
Kyle Kinport	Assistant Recreation Officer, Santa Barbara Ranger District

CHANGES TO THE AGENDA – None

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

1. Approval of Minutes

Recommendation: That the FCT Multi-jurisdictional Task Force waive the reading and approve the minutes of the regular meeting of February 6, 2008.

Motion:

Task Force Members Perkins/Longstreet to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of February 6, 2008.

Vote:

Unanimous voice vote

OLD BUSINESS

2. Draft Forest Service, County, and City Cooperative Agreement

Recommendation: That the Front Country Trails Multi-Jurisdictional Task Force review work completed to date to prepare a Cooperative Agreement between the Forest Service, County of Santa Barbara, and City of Santa Barbara.

Documents:

- Staff Report
- Staff PowerPoint Presentation

Speakers:

- Staff: Jill Zachary, Assistant Parks & Recreation Director; and Erik Axelson, Deputy Parks Director;

Task Force Comments:

- Task Force Member Hickling expressed some concern about not having a coordinator position. He stated that the document is a commitment document, and there is no commitment to do it, except that maybe there will be an agreement later.
 - Ms. Zachary said the approach was to recommend an agreement to be established and then further identify what the Front Country Coordinator would do. Ms. Zachary said that staff agrees with the Task Force that to be successful over the long-term, a committed staff person that is housed in an agency is needed.
- Task Force Member Perkins said she understands Mr. Hickling's point of view, but at this point, she thinks it is more important to get the cooperative agreement in place. She said, however, that there needs to

be a clear understanding that we want to move forward as quickly as possible to try to get the staff liaison defined.

- Task Force Member Hickling said that the FCT Management recommendations are hereby incorporated, and the three legal bodies have approved the document, so he retracted his comment.
 - o Ms. Zachary said staff will begin working on the next budget year in November. She said staff will discuss how to fund the position, and the budget recommendations for Fiscal Year 2010 can recommend the allocation of funds.
- Task Force Member Forsell asked if the County budget cycle works the same cycle as the City. Mr. Axelson said yes, it does.

3. Trailhead Signage and Etiquette Guidelines – For Discussion (Attachment 3)

Recommendation: That the Front Country Trails Multi-Jurisdictional Task Force review the proposed trails etiquette guidelines and trailhead signage.

Documents:

- Staff Report
- Staff PowerPoint

Speakers:

- Staff: Kerry Kellogg. Recreation Specialist, Santa Barbara Ranger District
- Members of the Public: Jim Childress, Steve Dougherty

Task Force Comments:

- Task Force Member Longstreet said she understands the comments, but believes we need to take some initiative to educate people. Ms. Longstreet said she thinks it is important to move forward. Ms. Longstreet further said she liked some of Mr. Childress's ideas and asked staff to incorporate them, if they can be pared down into bullet points. Ms. Longstreet said she is happy to move forward.
- Task Force Member Benson agreed with Ms. Longstreet with respect to moving forward.
- Chair Forsell said he likes the yield sign. He said that if it were on a separate sign someone might take more notice. Mr. Forsell asked how many trails we are considering putting these signs up.
 - o Mr. Kellogg said the signs are going to be placed at Tunnel, Cold Springs, Jesusita (both sides), San Ysidro, and Romero Trails.
- Task Force Member Hickling said he agrees with the speakers in that less is more. Mr. Hickling suggested the rules be broken out for example, common rules, and rules for cyclists, hikers, and equestrians. He said the sign could be simpler, more noticeable, and easier to digest.
- Task Force Member Perkins thanked Mr. Kellogg for his efforts, saying she spends time reading signs. She agreed with Mr. Hickling that having the rules broken out for all trail users is an excellent idea. She said she

absolutely thinks that having the rules posted sets a standard and sets a statement, because there are people from outside the area that she has seen looking at the signs.

- Task Force Member Forsell asked what the cost is to post the signs.
 - o Mr. Kellogg said the sign frames have already been produced, and staff will be seeking permission to use them. He said the only cost will be for the installation.
 - o Ms. Zachary indicated that staff would like to work on more permanent signage and staff will incorporate the Task Force's comments into the materials produced. Ms. Zachary said staff hopes to be able to get some pro-bono design help to put together some nice signs.

NEW BUSINESS

4. Front Country Trails Strategy Outline

Recommendation: That the Front Country Trails Multi-Jurisdictional Task Force receive a presentation and provide comments on the draft Trail Management Elements for the Front Country Trails Strategy.

Documents:

- Staff Report

Speakers:

- Staff: Jill Zachary, Assistant Parks & Recreation Director; Claude A. Garciacelay, ASLA, Park Planner, Santa Barbara County
 - o Ms. Zachary acknowledged that staff will be doing more work on this and bring it back to the Task Force.

ADJOURNMENT

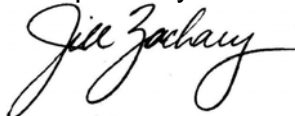
Motion:

At 6:16 p.m., Task Force members Hickling/Longstreet that the Task Force meeting be adjourned.

Vote:

Unanimous voice vote

Respectfully submitted,



Jill E. Zachary
Assistant Parks and Recreation Director